

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-12

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1. AL-AHRAM

TWO OF FIVE BANNERHEADS OVER FOUR-COLUMN MAIN FRONT-PAGE STORY READ: "ISRAELI PILOT CAPTURED YESTERDAY STATES ISRAEL RECEIVED 35 PAHNTOMS WITH US CREWS SHORT TIME AGO--NIXON REQUESTS CONGRESS APPROPRIATE DOLLARS 2,200 MILLION AT ONCE FOR ISRAEL'S MILITARY ASSISTANCE." STORY QUOTED "PENTAGON EXPERTS" SAYING SINAI TANK BATTLES "HAVE REACHED CLIMAX, BUT IT IS STILL PREMATURE TO PREDICT OUTCOME." REGARDING ISRAELI FORCE WEST OF CANAL, NYT'S MIDDLETON WAS QUOTED AS SAYING "WASHINGTON MILITARY EXPERTS DO NOT BELIEVE ISRAELI FORCE IS CAPABLE PRODUCING SIGNIFICANT EFFECT ON BATTLE'S OUTCOME."

SECOND LEAD WASHINGTON WIRE SERVICE STORY DEALT SOLELY WITH FLOW OF US MILITARY SUPPLIES TO ISRAEL. HEADLINES: "NIXON REQUESTS DOLLARS 2,200 MILLION FROM CONGRESS FOR LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ISRAEL--'OUR AID TO ISRAEL WILL BE INFINITE,' US SECRETARY

OF DEFENSE SAYS." TEXT QUOTED NIXON'S VIEW THAT SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION WILL GIVE HIM "ENOUGH FLEXIBILITY TO FULFILL US ME COMMITMENTS AND MAINTAIN ME ARMS BALANCE." NIXON, ACCORDING TO STORY, STATED DOLLARS 825 MILLION IN US MILITARY SUPPLIES WERE SENT TO ISRAEL DURING FIRST TWELVE DAYS OF WAR. DEFENSE DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN WAS ALSO QUOTED AS SAYING US GOVERNMENT ACTIVATED RESERVE AIR FORCE UNITS TO TAKE PART IN AIRLIFT TO ISRAEL, THAT "LIMITED NUMBER OF US AIR FORCE PERSONNEL ARE CURRENTLY IN ISRAEL" AND THAT 3,500 TONS OF MILITARY EQUIPMENT HAVE BEEN UNLOADED IN ISRAEL THUS FAR. US SECRETARY OF DEFENSE WAS QUOTED "MILITARY SUPPLIES TO ISRAEL CAN BE EXPANDED TO LEVEL REQUIRED TO PREVENT SERIOUS MILITARY IMBALANCE." STORY INCLUDED NY DAILY NEWS REPORT THAT ISRAEL PAYS DOLLARS 5,000 MONTHLY TO US PILOTS TO FLY SKY HAWKS TO ISRAEL.

KOSYGIN'S TRIP TO EGYPT COVERED ON FRONT PAGE. REUTER WASHINGTON REPORT SAID US OFFICIALS SAW KOSYGIN'S PRINCIPAL MISSION AS "LINKED WITH CEASEFIRE EFFORTS UNDER CONDITIONS ACCEPTABLE TO ALL PARTIES." US OFFICIALS, REUTERS ADDED, FEEL NEITHER ARABS NOR ISRAEL ARE READY FOR IMMEDIATE CEASE-FIRE BECAUSE EACH SIDE WISHES TO MAXIMIZE ITS POSITION."

LEAD FIVE-COLUMN FOREIGN PAGE STORY DEALT WITH EFFECTS OF ARAB STATES' DECISIONS TO REDUCE OIL SUPPLIES TO US. HEADLINES: "US AVIATION COMPANIES REDUCE FLIGHTS TO COPE WITH REDUCTION OF (ARAB) OIL. USG CONSIDERS FUEL RATIONING."

FEATURE PAGE INCLUDED: HENRY TANNER ARTICLE SAYING CAIRO IS CONFIDENT OF MILITARY POSITION; WASHING NEWS-STAR SAYING ISRAEL CANNOT SUPPORT WAR FOR MORE THAN MONTH; JAMES RESTON SAYING "IT IS WRONG TO ASSUME NIXON ADMINISTRATION'S AIM IS TO INSURE SENSATIONAL ISRAELI MILITARY VICTORY;" MIDDLETON'S REPORT THAT ISRAELI BRIDGEHEAD WEST OF CANAL IS CONSIDERED BY US MILITARY AND WESTERN SOURCES AS "RISK;" LE MONDE STATING DESPITE KISSINGER'S EFFORTS, US AND USSR ARE STILL DISTANT FROM EACH OTHER ON DRAFT ME PEACE PROPOSAL; AND NYT WRITER SAYING BOTH SUPERPOWERS ARE COLLECTING INFORMATION ON ME WAR THROUGH SATELLITES.

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LOCAL PAGE STORY QUOTED EGYPTIAN SPOKESMAN SAYING FOREIGN VOLUNTEERS IN ISRAELI FORCES WILL BE TREATED AS "MERCENARIES."

EDITORIAL BY AHMED BAHAA EL-DIN SAID WHEN TWO SUPER-POWERS AGREE, THEY CAN INFLUENCE WORLD EVENTS. SUCH AGREEMENT, HE CAUTIONED, "WILL NEVER BE FULL ANYTIME."

2. AKHBAR AL-YAWM

THREE OF FIVE FRONT-PAGE BANNERHEADS READ: "US ADMITS
MILITARY PRESENCE IN ISRAEL--CAPTURED PILOT CONFESSES--35
PHANTOMS FLOWN BY US PILOTS ARRIVED IN ISRAEL RECENTLY."

SECOND LEAD STORY TREATED US ME POSITION. HEADLINE:
"US REFUSES SETTLEMENT UNTIL ISRAEL REGAINS POSITION OF
STRENGTH." STORY QUOTED WHITE HOUSE SOURCES SAYING
WASHINGTON-MOSCOW DIPLOMATIC CEASEFIRE CONTACTS ARE STILL
GOING ON. ARAB UN SOURCE ALSO SAID NIXON GAVE ARAB FOREIGN
MINISTERS IMPRESSION US INTENDS TO POSTPONE SETTLEMENT
UNTIL ISRAEL REGAINS POSITION OF STRENGTH.

TWO-COLUMN FRONT-PAGE STORY COVERED NIXON'S REQUEST
FOR SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS FOR ARMS FOR ISRAEL.

MAIN FOREIGN PAGE STORY, QUOTING WIRE SERVICES, REPORTED
EFFECTS OF REDUCTION OF ARAB OIL UNDER BANNERHEAD THAT
MEASURE WILL BE "DISASTEROUS FOR INDUSTRIAL COUNTRIES."

IN HIS WEEKLY COLUMN, IHSAN ABDUL QUDDUS COMPARED
WASHINGTON AND MOSCOW ME STANDS. MOSCOW, HE SAID, WANTS
TO CONCLUDE FINAL SETTLEMENT BASED ON EXPLICIT AGREEMENTS,
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